

REMARKS

This is a full and timely response to the outstanding non-final Office Action mailed October 14, 2004. Upon entry of the amendments in this response, claims 1 – 4, 11 – 13 and 17 remain pending. Reconsideration and allowance of the application and presently pending claims are respectfully requested.

Double Patenting Rejection

The Office Action indicates that claims 1 – 4, 11 – 13 and 17 stand rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1 and 22 of U.S. Patent No. 6,678,064. In order to reduce the disputed issues and to allow the pending claims to proceed to issuance, Applicant submits herewith a terminal disclaimer and respectfully submits, therefore, that the double patenting rejection has been rendered moot.

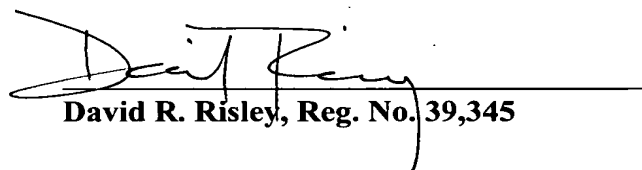
Cited Art Made of Record

The cited art made of record has been considered, but is not believed to affect the patentability of the presently pending claims.

CONCLUSION

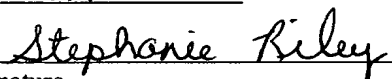
In light of the foregoing amendments and for at least the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully submits that all objections and/or rejections have been traversed, rendered moot, and/or accommodated, and that the now pending claims 1 – 4, 11 – 13 and 17 are in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application and all pending claims are hereby courteously requested. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (770) 933-9500.

Respectfully submitted,


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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on 11/5/04.


Signature